



Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr.
Governor

Judith A. Monroe, M.D.
State Health Commissioner

Indiana State
Department of Health
An Equal Opportunity Employer

DATE: November 26, 2008

TO: All Local Health Departments
Attn: Chief Food Inspection Officer

FROM: A. Scott Gilliam, MBA, CP-FS
Manager, Food Protection Program

SUBJECT: Undeclared Wheat in Chicken Strips Products

SUGGESTED

ACTION: Allergy Alert; Undeclared Wheat in Chicken Strips Products; Recommend notification of affected stores via phone, fax or e-mail.

From the information provided by USDA, the recalled products were distributed in the State of Indiana. The recalled products were distributed, to several other states including Indiana, to retail outlets. Detail store information is not available at this time. In addition, if any recalled product is found, please notify this office at 317-233-7360.

CLASS II RECALL

Affairs

HEALTH RISK: LOW

720-9113

Congressional and Public

Amanda Eamich (202)

FSIS-RC-045-2008

**TEXAS FIRM RECALLS CHICKEN PRODUCTS
DUE TO UNDECLARED ALLERGENS**

WASHINGTON, Nov. 26, 2008 – John Soules Foods, Inc., a Tyler, Texas, establishment, is recalling approximately 8,496 pounds of cooked chicken strip products. The chicken products may contain an undeclared allergen, wheat, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service announced today. Wheat is a known allergen, which is not declared on the label.

The following products are subject to recall:

- 24-ounce bags of "John Soules Foods FULLY COOKED CHICKEN BREAST STRIPS WITH RIB MEAT, *Italian Style*, GLUTEN FREE." Each bag bears the establishment number "P-2128" inside the USDA mark of inspection. Additionally, the UPC code "034695 123973" as well as the "USE BY" date of "Dec 27 08" or "Jan 2 09" are included on the back of the bag.
- 24-ounce bags of "John Soules Foods FULLY COOKED CHICKEN BREAST STRIPS WITH RIB MEAT, *Rotisserie Style*, GLUTEN FREE." Each bag bears the establishment number "P-2128" inside the USDA mark of inspection. Additionally, the UPC code "034695 123980" as well as the "USE BY" date of "Dec 27 08" or "Jan 2 09" are included on the back of the bag.

The chicken products were produced on Nov. 7 and 13, 2008, and were distributed to retail establishments in Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Maryland, Maine, Missouri, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia.

The problem was discovered by the company. FSIS has received no reports of illness due to consumption of these products. Anyone concerned about an allergic reaction should contact a physician.

Media with questions about the recall should contact company Senior Vice President Tom Ellis at (903) 363-1120. Consumers with questions about the recall should contact company Director of Quality Assurance Mark Andersen at (903) 245-3208.

Consumers with food safety questions can "Ask Karen," the FSIS virtual representative available 24 hours a day at AskKaren.gov. The toll-free USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline 1-888-MPHotline (1-888-674-6854) is available in English and Spanish and can be reached from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Eastern Time) Monday through Friday. Recorded food safety messages are available 24 hours a day.

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NOTE: Access news releases and other information at FSIS' Web site at http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Fsis_Recalls/